## Today's News - Thursday, July 24, 2008

- Sorkin finds urban lessons for the future in China's hutongs and lilongs.
- Foreigners are rescuing some of Beijing's hutongs with "a mix of modern sensibility and respect for original detail."
- Alexandria, VA, continues its "torpid march" toward a massive urban redevelopment project.
- A British inquiry into the skills shortage in modern planning departments finds skill is not the problem a shortage of planners is; what's needed: "serious investment in planning as a career
- In Canada, a historic convent to be transformed into a very green Guelph Civic Museum.
- Q&A with Ingersall re: his Superscape designs for a Las Vegas of tomorrow (great pix!).
   A human-powered monorail for an adventure park ride could be a no-emission urban transport system for the future.
- Rosenbaum documents a punch list for Ando's Clark Institute project (it was a real challenge for the contractors).
- An eyeful of dorm projects (we're ready to go back to school).
- How architects can achieve a striking online presence (with examples of the good, the bad, and the just plain awful please take heed!). A host of paths to publish a monograph.
- Hadid's futuristic Chanel pavilion to land in Central Park. Only a few days left to see her grand sandal (and more) in São Paulo.
- Ho-Am Prize in the Arts (considered Korea's Nobel Prize) goes to an architect for the first time.
- Calls for entries: From the Ground Up: Innovative Green Homes. Ceramic Tiles of Italy Design Competition 2009 + an eyeful of the 2008 winners.
- We couldn't resist: cartoonists take on climate change (we laughed and cried).
- Architects don't take themselves too seriously in the Architectural Knockout (and pix to prove it).

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Learning from the Hutong of Beijing and the Lilong of Shanghai: What makes this architecture remarkable, however, is less the character of its individual elements than the way they function urbanistically...we have a lot to learn... By Michael Sorkin- Architectural Record

In Ancient Alleys, Modern Comforts: Some of Beijing's traditional courtyard homes are being refurbished with a mix of modern sensibility and respect for original detail...these renovators...are emerging as the city's best hope for holding on to what's left of the old hutongs...and provoke many of the same anxieties that gentrifiers do in the West. --Antonio Ochoa [slide show]- New York Times

Landmark development plans inch forward: ...continued their torpid march toward implementation...for the redevelopment of the 220 acre Landmark/Van Dorn planning area. -- Sasaki Associates; Ehrenkrantz, Ekstut & Kuhn- Alexandria Times (Virginia)

Shortage of planners jeopardises government's house-building and regeneration plans: ...the current planning regime is "unable to manage the volume or variety of tasks required between now and 2020" - The Architects' Journal (UK)

Guelph Civic Museum architect selected: "The building itself -- the Loretto Convent -- is actually a museum piece itself"...historic landscaping will be an important part of the design. -- The Ventin Group Architects; Wendy Shearer- Guelph Mercury

Futuristic Design Drives 'Giant Robots in a Lazy River' Project: ...in "Thought Matters II"..."Neo-Natural Superscapes" illustrates eco-friendly design concepts that makes traditional architecture look like energy-gobbling relics. -- Travis Ingersall [images]- Wired

The Shweeb Human-powered monorail: ...adventure park ride built in New Zealand is partially a proof-of-concept for an ingenious, high efficiency, no emission urban transport system. --Geoffrey Barnett [images]- Gizmag (Australia)

Punch List for the Clark Art Institute's Tadao Ando: Window Shades and Concrete: ... "a challenge for the people [i.e., the contractors] who were doing this. It's not a level they're used to." By Lee Rosenbaum -- Gensler [images]- ArtsJournal

2008 Notable Projects: Dormitories --Morphosis/KZF Design; Murphy/Jahn; Les architectes FABG; Machado and Silvetti; architectsAlliance; KieranTimberlake; Erdy

McHenry; Yazdani Studio/Cannon Design [images]-Architype Review

Craft your practice's website as carefully as your next building: Richard Frankland of FKDA, which designs both buildings and websites, on how architects can achieve a striking online presence-BD/Building Design (UK)

Getting Booked: If you want your own monograph, follow one of these paths to publication. By Eva Hagberg- Architect Magazine

A 7,500-Square-Foot Ad for Chanel, With an Artistic Mission: A futuristic Mobile Art pavilion, commissioned by Chanel and designed by Zaha Hadid, will make a temporary appearance in Central Park this fall. [slide show]- New York Times

Iraqi Architect Puts Her Imprint on Brazil's Hottest Sandal: Melissa + Zaha Hadid sandal and Hadid exhibit at Galeria Melissa until July 26 [image]-Brazzil Magazine

Korean American Architect Kyu Sung Woo wins 2008 Ho-Am Prize in the Arts: ...often considered to be the Korean equivalent to the Nobel Prize. [images]- World Architecture

Call for entries: From the Ground Up: Innovative Green Homes for Near Westside neighborhood of Syracuse, NY (open to all): deadline Stage I submissions (portfolios): September 15- Syracuse University School of Architecture

Call for entries: Ceramic Tiles of Italy Design Competition 2009 (North America); deadline: February 6, 2009- Italian Trade Commission

Ceramic Tiles of Italy Design Competition 2008 winners -- Michael P. Johnson; Division1 Architects; Koji Tsutsui Architect; Richard Fleischman + Partners; BKA Architects; Gieseke Rosenthal Architecture [images]- Italian Trade Commission

Cartoonists use humour to tackle climate change: Surely, the threat posed by climate change is no laughing matter? But cartoonists from over 50 countries have shown that barbed humour can be a powerful weapon in the fight to halt global warming. [slide show]- Guardian (UK)

It's a Knockout... with added architects:
Architectural Knockout saw contestants from Make,
Ash Sakula, Alan Baxter, Savills, Make, Adams
Kara Taylor and Bompas & Parr running riot in
Clerkenwell's Spa Fields in an ingenious series of
games designed to mirror the world of construction.
[images, video]- Building (UK)

Classic Nuance: Simon Hall at Indiana University: A new research facility fits harmoniously with neighboring historic campus structures. — Flad Architects [images]- ArchNewsNow

-- Tod Williams Billie Tsien Architects: Visitor Center at Lincoln Center, New York, NY -- Santiago Calatrava: Light Rail Train Bridge, Jerusalem, Israel

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